

Public Law 97-311  
97th Congress

An Act

To direct the Secretary of Agriculture to release on behalf of the United States a reversionary interest in certain land previously conveyed to the State of Connecticut.

Oct. 14, 1982

[H.R. 6422]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

SECTION 1. (a)(1) Subject to subsection (b), the Secretary of Agriculture shall release on behalf of the United States, with respect to the land—

Connecticut,  
release of U.S.  
interest in  
certain land.

(A) described in section 2 of this Act, and

(B) conveyed, along with certain other parcels of land situated within the town of Sterling, county of Windham, State of Connecticut, to the State of Connecticut by a quitclaim deed dated November 18, 1954,

the condition in such deed which requires that such lands be used for public purposes, and if not so used, that the lands revert to and revest in the United States: *Provided*, That such release shall in no way affect the interests of the United States in coal, oil, gas, and other minerals (not outstanding or reserved in third parties) reserved by the United States in the described lands: *Provided further*, That such release shall be applicable so long as the described lands are used exclusively for cemetery purposes.

(2) Section 32(c) of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act (7 U.S.C. 1011(c)) shall not apply to the release authorized in paragraph (1) of this subsection.

(b) The Secretary of Agriculture shall not execute the release authorized in subsection (a)(1) until the State of Connecticut, in consideration of such release, enters into an agreement satisfactory to the Secretary of Agriculture which provides that the State will not sell, lease, exchange, or otherwise dispose of the lands to which the release applies—

(1) except to the Ekonk Cemetery, Incorporated, of Sterling, Connecticut, exclusively for the expansion of its existing cemetery; and

(2) unless the proceeds from such disposal are—

(A) deposited and held in an account open to inspection by the Secretary of Agriculture, and

(B) used, if withdrawn from such account, exclusively for public purposes.

SEC. 2. The land referred to in section 1(a)(1) is the certain parcel of land formerly vested in the United States (a portion of the land designated as the J. E. Tanner tract 6b) and situated in the town of Sterling, county of Windham, State of Connecticut, containing 0.93 acres of land, more or less, bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at a stonewall corner located in the southerly line of the Cedar Swamp Road, so-called, being the northeast corner of the herein described premises and the northwest corner of the existing Ekonk Cemetery, Incorporated; thence south 14 degrees, 49 minutes east, 152.1 feet, more or less, along a

stonewall to a wall corner; thence north 64 degrees, 50 minutes east, 145.7 feet, more or less, along a stonewall to a wall corner, the last two courses bounding easterly and northerly on the aforesaid Ekonk Cemetery, Incorporated; thence south 14 degrees, 53 minutes east, 50 feet, more or less, to an iron pin; thence south 64 degrees, 50 minutes west, 308 feet, more or less, to an iron pin; thence north 14 degrees, 49 minutes west, 204 feet, more or less, to an iron pin set in the southerly line of the aforesaid Cedar Swamp Road, the last three courses bounding easterly, southerly, and westerly on remaining land of the State of Connecticut; thence north 66 degrees, 26 minutes east, 162.9 feet, more or less, to a wall corner the place of beginning, bounding northerly on the said Cedar Swamp Road.

Approved October 14, 1982.

---

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 6422:

HOUSE REPORT No. 97-773 (Comm. on Agriculture).

SENATE REPORT No. 97-571 (Comm. on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 128 (1982):

Sept. 13, considered and passed House.

Sept. 29, considered and passed Senate.